



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Office of Regulatory Policy
HFD - 13
5600 Fishers Lane,
Rockville, MD 20857

Attention: Claudia Grillo

Dear Ms. Axelrad:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 6,306,900. The application was filed on April 23, 2004, under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

The patent claims a product that was subject to regulatory review under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Subject to final review, the subject patent is considered to be eligible for patent term restoration. Thus, a determination by your office of the applicable regulatory review period is necessary. Accordingly, notice and a copy of the application are provided pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to Mary C. Till at (571) 272-7755 (telephone) or (571) 273-7755 (facsimile).

Kery Fries
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

cc: Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza Bldg 430
East Hanover NJ 07936-1080

RE: Myfortic®
Docket No. 04E-0325



Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

OCT 19 2004

Re: Myfortic
Docket No. 04E-0325

The Honorable Jon Dudas
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Box Pat. Ext.
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Acting Director Dudas:

This is in regard to the application for patent term extension for U.S. Patent No. 6,306,900 filed by Novartis AG under 35 U.S.C. § 156. The human drug product claimed by the patent is Myfortic (mycophenolic acid), which was assigned NDA No. 50-791.

A review of the Food and Drug Administration's official records indicates that this product was subject to a regulatory review period before its commercial marketing or use, as required under 35 U.S.C. § 156(a)(4). Our records also indicate that it represents the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product, as defined under 35 U.S.C. § 156(f)(1), and interpreted by the courts in *Glaxo Operations UK Ltd. v. Quigg*, 706 F. Supp. 1224 (E.D. Va. 1989), *aff'd*, 894 F. 2d 392 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

The NDA was approved on February 27, 2004, which makes the submission of the patent term extension application on April 23, 2004, timely within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(1).

Should you conclude that the subject patent is eligible for patent term extension, please advise us accordingly. As required by 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A) we will then determine the applicable regulatory review period, publish the determination in the *Federal Register*, and notify you of our determination.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jane A. Axelrad
Associate Director for Policy
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

cc: Thomas R. Savitsky
Novartis AG
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430
East Hanover, NJ 07936